Allocation for the years 1996-97 and 1997-98 (For Common Schemes For SCs/STs)

Rs. in crores

Sl. No.	Scheme	Allocation 1996-97	1997-98
1.	Post Matric Scholarship	149.00	65.00
2.	Coaching and Allied	3.00	3.00
3.	Book Banks	3.60	3.60
4.	National Overseas Scholarship	4.90	4.90
5.	Upgradation of merit	1.00	1.00
6.	NSFDC	65.00	96.00
7.	SCDC	30.00	45.00
	TOTAL	256.50	218.50

Evaluation of the work of CSIR

*509. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the work of the CSIR is evaluated; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating to appoint an Expert Committee to evaluate the work of the CSIR and to suggest proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) There is a well defined system laid down for evaluation of work of CSIR which is serving a useful purpose. Review and evaluation of work is done centrally, discipline-wise and locally at the Laboratory/Institute level in a comprehensive manner.

Centrally, the CSIR Society; Standing Committee of Parliament on Science and Technology and the Advisroy Board monitor and evaluate the work. The CSIR Society meets atleast once in a year under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister of India who is also the ex-officio President of CSIR, with a view to reviewing the progress and performance of CSIR to give the policy direction to the Governing Body of CSIR, to give the approve the annual report and yearly accounts of CSIR. The Advisory Board (consisting of Eminent Scientists/Technologists/Industrialists an Social Scientists as members appointed by the President, CSIR among other members) conducts periodic review of specific R&D areas and Laboratories.

For assessing performance and progress discipline-wise of various multi-Laboratory projects there are five Technical Advisory Boards appointed in each of the following areas:

(i) Chemical Sciences and Technology

(ii) Biological Sciences and Biotechnology

(iii) Engineering Science and Technology including Electronics and computers

(iv) Material Sciences and Technology, and

(v) Physical, Earth and Marine Sciences.

Further, for micro-level monitoring and evaluation of work each laboratory has a Research Council which consists of five eminent external experts, among others, as its members. The Research Council advises and recommends on the formulation of research programmes of the Laboratory keeping the Five Year Plans and national priorities in view and conducts periodic review of the research activities, assesses the progress of the research programmes and advises on future directions.

Closure of Mines of the Hindustan Copper Limited

*510. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally taken a decision to close down some of the mines of the Hindustan Copper Limited;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the fate of the employees has been considered and if so, the total losses suffered by loss-making units of HCL

(d) the details of the efforts made to revive those units; and

(e) the reasons for failure in not reviving those units?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) No, Sir.